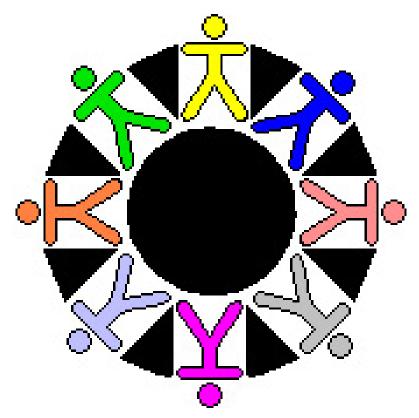
# Crater Health District 2011 Annual Report



## **Helping Build Healthy Communities**



Crater Health District serves the cities and counties of Dinwiddie, Emporia, Greensville, Hopewell, Petersburg, Prince George, Surry, and Sussex.

#### The Health Director's Highlights

This has been a remarkable year for Crater Health District (CHD); A new district management team has been established creating an extraordinarily talented and stable environment under the strong leadership of our acting director.

Wallica Gaines, MBA became the CHD Business Manager in July 2011. Wallica came to the district from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Office of Drinking Water where she worked on sizeable federal grants. Wallica obtained her MBA from Florida Institute of Technology, a BS in Business Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a certificate in Executive Education from Harvard University. She has brought a remarkable depth of position relevant experience and professional demeanor to the CHD.



Crater Health District Management Team (L-R) (2<sup>nd</sup> Row Standing) Sharon Williams, Tim Jones, Wallica Gaines, (1<sup>st</sup> Row) Louise Lockett, Deborah Whitacre, & Shayla Anderson

Sharon K. Williams, MS, RN became the CHD Nurse Manager in May 2011

after serving as the Virginia Genetics and Newborn Screening Program Manager for the past 9 years. Sharon obtained her MS and BS in Nursing. Sharon knows CHD well as she served as the Infant Mortality Review Program Coordinator in the region for over 3 years.

*Tim Jones, BS* has been the stable senior member of the management team having worked in CHD since 1997 as the Environmental Health Manager. Tim has provided a mature, unwavering, and consistent presence as the district has gone through a leadership change over the last several years. Tim has a BS in Environmental Health from East Tennessee State University.

**Shayla C. Anderson, MPH, CHES** started in January 2011 as the CHD Community Health & Prevention Supervisor. Shayla previously worked as project lead for Loudoun Health District's first community health needs assessment. She most recently came from Central Virginia Health District as the Sr. Health Educator where she wrote the districts grant application to earn Lynchburg City its status as Virginia's newest NACCHO ACHIEVE Community. Shayla obtained her MPH from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, a BS from Longwood University, and is certified as a Health Education Specialist.

CHD Epidemiologist, *Louise Lockett, MPH*, has continued to build the district communicable disease program for over two years. She has been integral in leading infectious disease surveillance and outbreak response efforts for the district. Louise earned her MPH from Eastern Virginia Medical School and a BS from the College of William & Mary.

Hurricane Irene proved the talents and commitment of this team as they worked 12 hour shifts for almost a week assuring a timely and organized public health response with the technical guidance of **Deborah Whitacre, BPE, PMP** the CHD Emergency Planner. Deborah obtained her BPE from Dalhousie University and her Masters Certificate from York University.



I have been Acting Health Director since March 2011 and have enjoyed the opportunity to reestablish the CHD as the lead, impactful public health agency in the region. Several health director candidate interviews have been conducted over the past six months, but the ideal candidate has not been discovered. Jeffery Lake, VDH Deputy Commissioner for Community Health Services continues to be relentless in seeking skilled leadership for CHD.

Sincerely,

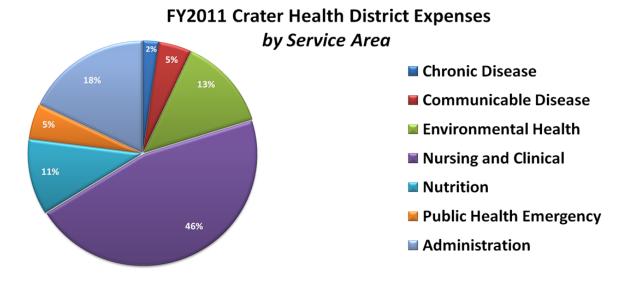
Donald R. Stern, MD, MPH
Acting Health Director Crater Health District



#### 2011 Administration Profile

The CHD which includes seven local health departments' serves a population of 156,000 in eight localities. The localities are the cities of Emporia, Hopewell, and Petersburg and the counties of Greensville, Dinwiddie, Prince George, Sussex, and Surry.

In FY2011, the CHD total expenditures were \$7,368,275. This is consistent with the mean expenditures for local health departments serving similar size populations. The mean annual per capita expenditures for CHD was \$47 compared to \$61 for state governed health departments across the US. Personnel related expenses accounted for 78.65% of all expenditures in the district.



The chart above reflects CHD's expenditures totaling \$7,368,280 by service area. A portion of CDH's FY2011 expenditures focused on addressing the H1N1 Influenza virus through *Public Health Emergency Services*.

The CHD is funded by a combination of local, state, federal and private funds and fees. The majority of funding for the district is derived from the Commonwealth of Virginia General Fund in conjunction with a variety of federal, state and private grants.

37%

Service Fees

State Share

Grants

Local Match

FY2011 Crater Health District Revenue Sources

#### **Reproductive Health Services**

#### **Family Planning**

The CHD family planning program goal is to assist women and men with the decision to have children and if so, how many and how far apart they want to space them. Funded through the Title X Program, Crater provides confidential family planning birth control, counseling, and clinical services in each of the District's seven local health departments. A total of 1,955 individuals received services in FY2011 resulting in a total of 4,499 visits.

#### **Teenage Pregnancy Prevention**

CHD addresses the district's high rate of teen pregnancy by promoting a combination of community/school education and clinical services to youth ages 10-18 years old. It is the goal that through education, sexual activity will be postponed and when the decision is made to engage in sex that teens will choose to protect themselves from sexually transmitted infections and un-planned pregnancies. CHD provides quality services that are available in a separate teen focused clinic setting.

Crater Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative's PRIDE (Preparing Responsible Individuals Determined to Excel) Program focuses on the elementary and middle school population. The program works with Petersburg Public Schools and community partners, providing community-based programs promoting abstinence, delay in pregnancy, effective communication, parental involvement, and sexual responsibility. The program's community coalition works together with community partners to organize and promote a unified community-based approach to reducing teen pregnancy. In FY2011, the number of teen contacts within the schools and community was 2,346.

Through the *HealthSpace* program CHD continues a community-based focus with educational outreach targeting the high school population. HealthSpace is collaboration between CHD and the Cameron Foundation. Education sessions and counseling are provided in Petersburg High School and Blandford Academy. The HealthSpace health educator and clinic nurse counsels teens < 19 years of age regarding; safe sex, sexual coercion, healthy relationships, self esteem, career counseling, and hygiene. Additionally, this program includes clinical services, providing contraception methods, pregnancy testing, referrals for pregnancies, STD treatment, and sports physicals. Clinical services are offered to the Petersburg population by

appointment and on a walk-in basis at the Petersburg Health Department. An expansion of services to the Hopewell teen population is expected in January 2012. Petersburg teen clinic served 450 individuals in FY2011 which is a 26% increase over the previous year.

On Friday, May 6, 2011 HealthSpace Teen Center sponsored "An Evening of Elegance" at the historic train station in Petersburg. The event was held to recognize 50 teen girls nominated by individuals in the community for making wise lifestyle decisions and setting an example for their peers.



#### **Maternity Care**

The district goal is to decrease or maintain the perinatal mortality rate and achieve healthy pregnancy outcomes by providing comprehensive prenatal and post-partum care to the residents of CHD. Each of the seven local health departments in Crater serve clients who are not eligible for health plans or are otherwise unable to receive services from local community health centers or private physicians. During FY2011 there



were 537 pregnancy tests performed. Prenatal care services were provided to 128 clients resulting in 652 visits for FY2011. Services are enhanced through the use of two Spanish language medical interpreters and include regularly scheduled physical exams and prenatal blood work. Nutritional counseling is provided with an emphasis on nutritional and breastfeeding education. Case management and referrals to community resources are provided as appropriate. Delivery, acute high-risk care, and emergency care are provided at the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) Hospital.

#### **Nursing Home Pre-Admission Screenings**

Pre-admission screenings are performed in all eight localities of the district. These screenings by public health nurses are conducted under a contractual agreement between VDH and the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS). During FY2011, 290 patients were screened throughout the district. The table on page six indicates the total number of screenings by locality in FY2011 compared to the number screened in the previous of FY2011. Overall, the pre-admission screenings conducted in CHD declined by 5% in FY2011.

#### **Communicable Disease Services**

The CHD *Communicable Disease Team* conducts surveillance and investigations to minimize effects of communicable disease outbreaks within the district. By ensuring thorough investigations of all reportable disease conditions, the Communicable Disease Team works to prevent transmission of disease and to curtail disease outbreaks. During the calendar year, the CHD Communicable Disease Team responded to outbreaks of norovirus at long-term care facilities, scabies and other communicable diseases in penal institutions (these illnesses frequently occur in congregate settings) and a chickenpox cluster in a school setting.

As part of this team, the *Tuberculosis Control Program* protects CHD citizens from the transmission of tuberculosis by identification, assessment, monitoring, and treatment of individuals with tuberculosis disease. The TB Program staff also assesses those exposed to individuals with tuberculosis. CHD outreach personnel provided directly observed therapy (DOT), assuring proper drug administration for all active TB cases throughout the district. This past year TB program staff followed four active cases of TB.

The *Immunization Program* promotes and provides childhood and adult immunizations to prevent disease outbreaks within CHD. A total of 3,849 people district-wide were immunized to prevent multiple diseases.

#### **Crater Takes Immunizations Mobile**

During the entire month of August and into the first week of September, Crater provided vaccinations to children across the district. The team set up its mobile vaccination clinic at convenient locations including grocery stores, schools, community centers and shopping centers.



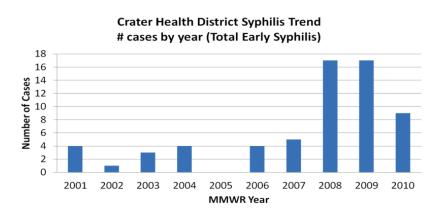
#### **Sexually Transmitted Infections**

Crater's Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Prevention Program has as its primary goal the reduction and prevention of the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV infection. Aggressive case-finding efforts and treatment are employed by Crater's STI counselors to curtail spread of sexually transmitted



infection. Last year's HIV rate dropped to nearly half the rate from 2009 (31.5 to 18.5 new cases per 100,000 people). Gonorrhea infection increased slightly and continues to mirror the Virginia rate. Syphilis cases averaged three cases per year with a spike of 17 cases in 2008 and 2009. In 2010 the number of cases dropped by about half and the syphilis rate declined to meet the Virginia rate (6.4 cases per 100,000 people).

In response to CHDs 2008-2009 increase in syphilis and syphilis outbreak within the region, CHD cosponsored a media campaign. The campaign focused on disease awareness, the importance of getting tested for syphilis, and provided a hotline number for the public to call and ask questions. During the campaign period, the hotline received 404 calls, doubling the call volume seen six weeks prior.



#### FY2011 Clinical Services Provided by Locality **Nursing Home Immunizations Family** Maternity **Pre-Admission STI Clinic Visits Planning** (Children & Adult) **Screenings** Locality FY2011 FY2011 FY2011 FY2011 FY2011 Patients/Visits Patients/Visits **Total Patients** Patients/Visits Patients/Visits Crater 1955/4499 128/652 290 1875/2461 3849/4686 **Dinwiddie** 232/530 10/43 59 161/191 595/753 Emporia/ 415/980 25/145 41 276/393 430/598 Greensville Hopewell 164/357 22/118 29 71/85 380/434 **Petersburg** 630/1412 82 45/257 1061/1407 1516/1789 **Prince** 39 442/496 186/361 9/37 80/104 George 134/380 7/24 12 89/104 Surry 253/313 Sussex 194/479 10/28 28 137/177 233/303

#### **Environmental Health**

The *Environmental Health Teams* at each of CHD's local health departments are comprised of 1-2 Environmental Health Specialists (EHS). EHS across our district are engaged in a variety of environmental programs. These programs are either state mandated or directed through local ordinance or code. In some



localities we are responsible for tattoo parlor inspections, grocery store inspections, and standing water complaints.

FY2011 Environmental Health Services by Locality								
FY2011	Dinwiddie	Emporia Greensville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex	Crater FY2011 TOTAL
Sewage Applications	94	30	0	1	68	43	31	267
Well Applications	96	19	0	0	59	33	28	235
Food Inspections	147	241	201	395	179	79	66	1308
Rabies Investigations	79	25	45	47	77	22	23	318
Positive Rabies Cases	2	0	0	1	2	1	1	7

#### **Food Service Training**

Training of food service personnel in food safety is provided by district Environmental Health Specialists. The Certified Food Manager course and the Basic Food Safety course is offered several times per year and the classes are often full. In both FY2010 and FY2011 a total of 177 food personnel were trained in food safety. Food safety classes are open to anyone who wants to attend.

#### **Community Health & Prevention**

#### **Healthy Start Loving Steps**

This Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant-funded home visiting program is offered through the City of Petersburg Health Department and strives to reduce infant mortality and low birth weights among African-American adult women (aged 20-40). The Loving Steps team is comprised of nurses, dieticians, and community outreach workers. This team provides intensive case management, care coordination, and works to get women into prenatal care within their first trimester. Program clients are screened for medical, nutritional, social, economic, and environmental risks. The Healthy Start program also reviews causes of fetal deaths, infant deaths, and low weight births in order to improve future birth outcomes.

#### **Resource Mothers**

This grant-funded home visiting program is offered through the Cities of Petersburg and Hopewell Health Departments. The Resource Mothers staff of community health workers mentors African-American teens (up to age 19) that are pregnant for the first time through their child's first year of life. Program staff ensures early and adequate prenatal care is received to reduce the chances of a low weight birth or infant death. Expectant teens are provided intensive child development education, encouraged to set and achieve personal education goals, supported to involve the family and father, and offered referrals to needed services. The program's primary goal is to improve birth outcomes for pregnant teens.

FY2010-2011 Total Home Visiting Clients Served						
	Resource Mothers	Healthy Start				
Total Clients Served	127	127				
Locality	Petersburg & Hopewell	Petersburg				
<b>Grant Year</b>	July 1-June 30	February 1 – January 31				

#### **Lead Poison Prevention Program**

CHD provides case management for children with repeated elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs) who are six years of age or younger. During FY2011 CHD provided case management and follow-up to 24 children throughout the district. Eleven of the 24 children were newly reported and entered into case management services in FY2011. Lead program staff works with the child's primary care provider to provide lead poison treatment and conducts home visits to identify sources of lead exposure and to educate families on how to reduce blood lead levels in their children.

#### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

The purpose of the Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is to provide personalized nutrition assessment, education, counseling, and strategies for a healthy diet through a variety of supplemental foods as well as referrals to other agencies and the benefits of breastfeeding awareness.

Participants include; pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants, and children up to age five. Program goals are to improve pregnancy outcomes, prevent nutritional deficiencies, and support optimal growth and development.

This past fiscal year, the average number of clients served per month was 4,621 with 532 pregnant women and 136 breastfeeding women being enrolled to services. This program plays a vital role in the district's plan to reduce infant mortality and increase breastfeeding rates. The program has decreased the percentage of overweight children by more than 4%.

The CHD WIC program received approval from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to pilot the state's new WIC information system which will support all aspects of the program including integration of an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) food issuance system called, E-WIC. This pilot is scheduled to begin in September 2012.



WIC Clients Served By Locality									
FY2011	Dinwiddie	Emporia/ Greensville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex	Ft. Lee	FY2011 TOTAL
	482	507	970	1392	485	126	210	362	4,534



#### **Community Health Education & Outreach**

Community Health Education and Outreach staff work in partnership with the community to identify health needs, develop interventions to address health needs and participate in health fairs and forums. Community Health and Outreach staff develop grant proposals to address health priorities for the health district. The team is an active partner with community organizations and coalitions who work towards improving health for citizens of the health district. This team also supports development of grant proposals made by local community organizations to improve public health.

#### **Emergency Preparedness & Response**

#### **Emergency Preparedness & Response Role**

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) plays a critical role in preparation for and responding to emergencies resulting from bioterrorism events, accidents, or natural disasters. The CHD EP&R team works closely with Fort Lee, local city and county emergency managers, and community partners such as Social Services, Red Cross, Richard Bland College, and others. CHD established places for Points of Distribution Sites (PODS).

#### **Hurricane Irene Response & Mitigation**

On August 27, 2011 Hurricane Irene made landfall in Central Virginia. The hurricane caused significant damage across all Crater communities. This damage resulted in closure of the CHD local health departments. Local health departments were closed between 3 - 9 days due to power loss. The health district's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated and more than 64 employees and MRC volunteers responded to this severe weather event. A total of four shelters were opened between three localities; Surry, Sussex and Dinwiddie counties. Staff rotated 12 hour shifts providing basic medical triage services. For many CHD staff this was their first time experiencing the district EOC activation. CHD is fortunate to have a number of experienced staff with firsthand experience responding to hurricanes and other public health emergencies.

#### **Training & Education**

Crater staff participated in a variety of trainings, exercises, and educational sessions throughout the year including Incident Command System training and Continuity of Operations Plan. Staff participated in a variety of exercises and drills coordinated by CHD and amongst the broader Crater community. CHD staff participated in a total of 13 events, exercises, and drills.

#### **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)**

The CHD Medical Reserve Corps mission is to improve overall community health and preparedness by recruiting, training, deploying, and retaining volunteer health professionals and community members. The CHD relies on MRC members to share their skills and expertise during responses to threats of terrorism, public health emergencies, and other community needs. Membership increased from 72 volunteers to 112 (an increase of 36%) during 2010-11. From June 2010 to October 2011, 14 training sessions were held for MRC volunteers who provided 152 hours of volunteer service. Eighteen MRC members joined with Crater staff to support six activities and exercises.

As part of the districts efforts to be better prepared for disaster, National Standards are followed in all training and planning efforts. CHD scored 81% on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Local Technical Assistance Review (LTAR) and achieving Project Public Health Ready (PPHR) status from the National Association for City & County Health Officials (NACCHO).





### **Crater Health District Contact Information**

Dinwiddie County Health Department 14006 Boydton Plank Rd. Dinwiddie, VA 23841 Ph.804-469-3771 Fax.804-469-9379

Hopewell City Health Department 220 Appomattox Street Hopewell, VA 23860 Ph.804-458-1297 Fax.804-541-3023

Petersburg City Health Department 301 Halifax Street Petersburg, VA 23803 Ph.804-863-1652 Fax.804-862-6126

Sussex County Health Department 20103 Princeton Rd. Sussex, VA 23884 Ph.434-246-8611 Fax.434-246-8610 Greensville/Emporia Health Department 140 Uriah Branch Way Emporia, VA 23847 Ph.434-348-4210 Fax.434-348-4281

Prince George County Health Department 6450 Administration Drive, Suite 101 Prince George, VA 23875 Ph.804-733-2630 Fax.804-862-6127

Surry County Health Department 474 Colonial Trail West Dendron, VA 23839 Ph.757-294-3185 Fax.757-294-3756

